



State Senator

February 4, 2004

**VALDE GARCIA**

*Serving the 22<sup>nd</sup> District*

*Shiawassee-Livingston-Southern Ingham counties*

## Legislative Update

The following bills were introduced this week. Should you wish to learn more about the proposed legislation, please visit [www.michiganlegislature.org](http://www.michiganlegislature.org) and enter the bill number where indicated. The web-site will provide you with the bill's language as introduced and an analysis describing how the bill will affect area industry, the economy and consumers.

Senator Garcia is eager to learn how you feel about proposed legislation. He welcomes your responses via e-mail at [senvgarcia@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senvgarcia@senate.michigan.gov).

### **BREAKING NEWS FROM SENATOR GARCIA'S OFFICE**

### ***A Legislative Bulletin for Residents of the 22<sup>nd</sup> District***

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|--------|--|
| SB 937 | WASTE REDUCTION PROGRAM (McManus)<br>Provides county assessment of voter approval for waste reduction program and funding amounts.   |
| SB 938 | INSURANCE RATE NOTIFICATION (Jacobs)<br>Requires 60-day written notification of insurance rate increase.   |
| SB 939 | COURT EMPLOYEE EARLY RETIREMENT (Jacobs)<br>Provides early retirement for employees of the 36th district court (Detroit) or the 3rd circuit court (Wayne County) with a 30 day window for application.   |
| SB 940 | WORKPLACE INJURY NOTIFICATION (Jacobs)<br>Requires notice by employer and state investigation of a serious workplace accident or injury.   |
| SB 941 | COURT CASE REMAND (Cherry)<br>Provides for authority of the circuit court to remand cases in which damages appear to be within the jurisdictional limits of the district court to district court.  |
| SB 942 | EARLY RETIREMENT NOTIFICATION (Jacobs)<br>Requires two-week disclosure notice to employees eligible for a newly enacted early retirement program.  |
| SB 943 | SEX EDUCATION INSTRUCTION (Kuipers)<br>Revises requirements for instruction in sex education; requires teaching abstinence relative to HIV/AIDS issues; requires emphasis on marriage when teaching about sexual intercourse; requires teaching that adoption is a positive option for teen mothers; requires teaching of criminal consequences of having sex with someone under age 16. |
| SB 944 | SEX EDUCATION PENALTIES (Hardiman)<br>Revises penalties and provides for complaint process related to instruction in sex education.  |
| SB 945 | HORSE BOARDING FACILITIES (McManus)<br>Classifies horse boarding and horse training facilities as agricultural real property for property tax purposes.  |

SB 946	MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (Patterson) Provides for medical savings accounts.
SB 947	MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (Patterson) Provides income tax credit for contributions to a medical savings account.
SB 948	MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (Hammerstrom) Provides single business tax credit for businesses that contribute to medical savings accounts of employees.
SB 949	PREVENTIVE MEDICAL CARE (Patterson) Provides income tax deductions for expenditures on preventive medical care.
SB 950	RETURNABLE PALLETS (VanWoerkom) Exempts lease costs of returnable pallets or containers from sales tax.
SB 951	RETURNABLE PALLETS (VanWoerkom) Exempts returnable pallets or containers from use tax.
SB 952	VALID FISHING LICENSE (VanWoerkom) Specifies period during which fishing licenses are valid as one year from the date of issuance.
SB 953	AGRICULTURAL ENERGY PRODUCTION (Brown) Provides loans to owner-operator of a farm for qualified agricultural energy production.
SB 954	NET METERING PROGRAM (Brown) Establishes net electric utilities metering programs.
SB 955	METHANE DIGESTER SYSTEM (Brown) Exempts methane digester and methane digester electric generating system from property tax.
SB 956	WRECKER VEHICLE LIGHTS (Gilbert) Includes wrecker operators as an emergency vehicle in requirements for drivers of vehicles when approaching a wrecker with flashing lights.
SB 957	U.N.C.F. LICENSE PLATE (Hardiman) Establishes a specialty license plate for the United Negro College Fund.
SB 958	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY LICENSE PLATE (Hardiman) Provides for state-sponsored fundraising registration plate for Habitat for Humanity.

## Committee Hearings

Committee times and agendas are subject to change at the chair's discretion.

### House

House Committee	Commerce: Mortuary Market Reform
Clerk Phone Number	517-373-5632
Location	519 House Office Building, Lansing, MI
Date	Tuesday, 2/10/2004
Time	9:00 AM
Agenda	<a href="#">SB 512</a> Toy Cemeteries and funerals; other; preneed cemeteries and merchandise services; provide for under the prepaid funeral act.  <a href="#">SB 513</a> Toy Cemeteries and funerals; other; revisions for transferring preneed sales to combined act; provide for.
Chair	Representative Frank Accavitti Jr.

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House Committee	Judiciary
Clerk Phone Number	517-373-7256
Location	308 House Office Building, Lansing, MI
Date	Tuesday, 2/10/2004
Time	9:00 AM

**Agenda** [HB 5479](#) Howell Courts; district court; additional district judgeship in Mecosta-Osceola district; provide for.

[HB 5480](#) Howell Courts; circuit court; additional circuit judgeship in Clare-Gladwin circuit; provide for.

[HB 5337](#) Howell Courts; judges; various circuit, probate, and district judgeships; revise.

[HB 5271](#) Gaffney Courts; circuit court; third judicial circuit; revise provisions concerning number of judges.

[HB 5394](#) Julian Labor; fair employment practices; certain statements made by law enforcement officers to law enforcement agencies; regulate use and disclosure of.

**Chair** Representative Jim Howell

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**House Committee** Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security

**Clerk Phone Number** 517-373-8099

**Location** 327 House Office Building, Lansing, MI

**Date** ~~Tuesday, 2/10/2004~~ **Cancelled**

**Time** ~~9:00 AM~~ **Cancelled**

**Agenda** [HB 4885](#) Nofs Law enforcement; state police; authorization for a special reserve; provide for.

**Chair** Representative Mike Nofs

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**House Committee** Appropriations:  
School Aid (K12)/Department of Education, Joint Meeting with Senate Appropriations:  
School Aid (K12)/Department of Education

**Clerk Phone Number** 517-373-8080

**Location** State Board of Education Room Hannah Building, 4th Floor Lansing

**Date** Tuesday, 2/10/2004

**Time** 4:00 PM

**Agenda** Department of Education: General Information

**Chair** Representative John Moolenaar

**House Committee** Criminal Justice

**Clerk Phone Number** 517-373-7256

**Location** 327 House Office Building, Lansing, MI

**Date** Wednesday, 2/11/2004

**Time** 10:30 AM

**Agenda** [SB 681](#) Cherry Criminal procedure; preliminary examination; expert testimony by video conferencing; allow.

[HB 4662](#) Caswell Crimes; uttering and publishing; bad check pretrial diversion program; create.

[HB 4663](#) Caswell Occupations; collection practices; exemption in occupational code for private entities operating a bad check pretrial diversion program from collection agency licensure requirements; create.

[HB 5174](#) Robertson Crimes; other; penalties for certain adulterations of drugs and medicine; increase.

[HB 5175](#) Nofs Health; pharmaceuticals; penalty for adulterating, misbranding, or substituting a drug or device with the intent to defraud; enhance in certain circumstances.

[HB 5176](#) Farhat Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; crime of adulterating, misbranding, or substituting drugs; provide for.

[HB 5177](#) Ehardt Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; increased penalties for certain adulterations of drugs and medicine; provide.

[HB 5178](#) Casperson Corrections; parole; provision relating to nonparolable life sentences; expand to include certain convictions.

**Chair** Representative William Van Regenmorter

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**House Committee** Land Use and Environment

**Clerk Phone Number** 517-373-5632

Location	326 House Office Building, Lansing, MI
Date	Wednesday, 2/11/2004
Time	2:00 PM or after committees are given leave by the House to meet, whichever time is later.
Agenda	<a href="#">HB 4929</a> Ward Environmental protection; water pollution; disclosure procedures for discharges of untreated or partially treated sewage; require for privately owned wastewater treatment facilities.
Chair	Representative Ruth Johnson
House Committee	Appropriations, Joint Meeting with Senate Appropriations
Clerk Phone Number	517-373-1260
Location	House Appropriations Committee Room, 3rd Floor, State Capitol Building
Date	Thursday, 2/12/2004
Time	12:00 PM
Agenda	Presentation of the Executive Budget for fiscal year 2004 - 2005 by Mary Lannoye, State Budget Director
Chair	Representative Marc Shulman

## Senate

Senate Committee	Appropriations: Natural Resources
Clerk Phone Number	373-1725
Location	Senate Appropriations Room, 3rd Floor, Capitol Building
Date	Tuesday, 2/10/2004
Time	12:00 PM
Agenda	Advice and Consent hearing on Mary Brown and Gerald Hall, Jr., appointees to the Natural Resources Commission.
Chair	Senator Michelle McManus

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Senate Committee	Government Operations
Clerk Phone Number	373-0797
Location	Rooms 402 and 403, Capitol Building
Date	Tuesday, 2/10/2004
Time	1:00 PM
Agenda	<a href="#">HB 5086</a> , <a href="#">HB 5179</a>
Chair	Senator Ken Sikkema

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Senate Committee	Judiciary
Clerk Phone Number	373-3760
Location	Room 210, Farnum Building
Date	Tuesday, 2/10/2004
Time	1:00 PM
Agenda	Dept. of Corrections Presentation on prison capacity, prisoner intake, the parole and release process, and community corrections.
Chair	Senator Alan L Cropsey

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Senate Committee	Commerce & Labor
Clerk Phone Number	373-2413
Location	Room 100, Farnum Building
Date	Tuesday, 2/10/2004
Time	3:00 PM
Agenda	<a href="#">HB 5244</a> , <a href="#">SB 647</a>
Chair	Senator Jason Allen

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Senate Committee	Appropriations: K-12, School Aid, Education, Joint Senate & House
Clerk Phone Number	373-6960

Location	State Board of Education Room, 4th Floor, Hannah Building
Date	Tuesday, 2/10/2004
Time	4:00 PM
Agenda	Dept. of Education: General Information
Chair	Senator Ron Jelinek

Senate Committee	Technology & Energy
Clerk Phone Number	373-7350
Location	Room 210, Farnum Building
Date	Wednesday, 2/11/2004
Time	3:00 PM
Agenda	Continued discussion of P.A. 141 of 2000; General discussion of the Michigan Telecommunications Law.
Chair	Senator Bruce Patterson

Senate Committee	Appropriations, Joint Senate and House
Clerk Phone Number	373-2523
Location	House Appropriations Room, 3rd Floor, Capitol Building
Date	Thursday, 2/12/2004
Time	12:00 PM
Agenda	Fiscal Year 2004-05 Executive Budget Presentation
Chair	Senator Shirley Johnson